

Minutes of the Meeting of Milton Parish Council held on Monday 04 April 2011 at 7.30pm in the Bowls Pavilion

Present: RT Summerfield (chair) PS Badley JE Coston GA Covell R Day M Ellwood RJ Farrington
M Hersom SC Humphreys B Jefferson IF May HM Smith RLE Waters
P Bone, representative cricket club, two members of the public, the clerk and assistant clerk
Cllr M Williamson

1 Apologies for absence - AJ Campbell TA Drummond.

2 Declarations of Interest – personal and/or prejudicial

Personal:

HMS – Planning agenda 6 - a member of SCDC’s planning committee.
JEC - Request from cricket club agenda 7 - husband a member of cricket club
RD and RLEW - Request from cricket club agenda 7 - both vice presidents of cricket club

3 Minutes - the minutes of the meeting of 07 March 2011 were approved and signed as a true record.

4 Public Participation – no member of the public wished to speak.

5 Clerk’s/Chairman’s report

Double yellow lines Cambridge Road Industrial Estate (PC5/07-10) – the lines were now in place.

Winship Road junction (PC12/12-10) – works to make improvements for pedestrians and cyclists at Winship Road had started.

SCDC Liaison meeting 29 March (PC5/02-11) – the Code of Conduct was discussed. The Localism Bill was expected to become law in 2012. “In its current form the bill includes the following:

- Code of Conduct will be revoked
- Standards for England will be abolished
- Statutory requirement for district and county councils to have a standards committee will be removed.

Parish Councils will be expected to adopt a voluntary code of conduct.

All councillors will be considered to have committed a criminal offence if they wilfully fail to register or withdraw for a personal interest or if they use their position improperly for personal gain.”

Questions from the Standards Committee Working Group:

- does your parish council plan to adopt a voluntary code of conduct? **Yes.**
- if so, does your parish council plan to adopt a framework for dealing with allegations relating to your voluntary code? **See next answer.**
- if the District Council adopts a voluntary code and framework, would your parish council consider signing up to it? **Yes in principle.** If so, what would do you think would be an appropriate annual fee? * **The more villages that signed up to this the lower should be the fee.**
- does your parish council plan to appoint an independent monitoring officer or to ask the District Council’s Monitoring Officer to continue to have responsibility for the registration of members’ interests? **Ask the District Council**
- do you want the District Council to continue to have responsibility for parish council guidance, advice and training in matters relating to member conduct? **Yes in principle. Much depended on the legislation, additional information and charges*.**

Andrew Stunnell MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, Communities and Local Government, responded to the Standards Committee’s representations of January 2011 about the future of standards and the Localism Bill thus:

- The Government expects that councils will decide to adopt a code of conduct in the absence of a legal requirement to do so; and
- Under the Localism Bill, district councils will no longer be responsible for dealing with complaints about the conduct of parish council members in their area

Note that until the full terms of the Localism Bill were known councillors would still have to fill in the Register of Interests in 2011. “All councillors.....will have to register certain personal interests in a publicly available register; this could include anything that could reasonably be regarded as likely to influence or affect their actions, conduct when on business for the authority, or voting.....”

Further detail on the nature and scope of the new requirements for declaring interests will be contained in subsequent Regulations.”

The meeting also covered level of S106 monies that the parish could expect from new developments, travellers sites, the Local Development Framework and Neighbourhood Development Plans (to be part of Localism Bill) and consultation on the Draft Charter for South Cambridgeshire Councils. The Charter would give details of the type of service provision that SCDC and CCC could hand down to Parish Councils.

Parish Council (PC5/03-11) - noted that 14 nominations had been received for Council.

Golf Course (PC5/03-11) – confidential notes of meeting with officers of CCC held on 1 April were received and noted.

Tomkins Mead (PC7/03-11) – Tomkins Mead was made a nature reserve in the 1970's by the (now defunct) Cambridgeshire & Isle of Ely Naturalist Trust. As the present status therefore was unclear the clerk had asked Philip Clark CCC to for information about designating/confirming Tomkins Mead a Local Nature Reserve.

In order for it be made a nature reserve it must have educational and wildlife potential, must be owned by the Parish Council and be accessible to local residents.

Telephone box Coles Road (PC12/03-11) – email from BT received 10 March 2011:

"I will raise a job this evening to repair the Coles Road telephone kiosk. It's a costly repair involving a new power chamber surround and a new backboard so it will not happen overnight. I would be hopeful of the work being undertaken in the next 3 to 4 weeks once the necessary stores items have been ordered. There will be no cost to the Parish Council."

Derek Seaton - Commercial Field Officer for BT Payphones.

Thanks to RJF for pointing out that BT had an obligation to provide a telephone box.

Chesterton Fen (PC17/03-11) – from W Tipper Environment Agency: "Thank you for your e-mail, which I will take into account in determining the dispute [whether AWA have a duty to provide a sewage connection] regarding Chesterton Fen. I will also write to you directly to confirm the outcome of the dispute when we issue our determination. If you, or any of the members of the Parish Council, have any questions in the meantime do please contact me." District councillors' report below refers.

HCV Strategy - documents from the HCV strategy meeting on Wednesday 2nd March received and previously circulated by email. Council had no comments to make.

Library Service Review – consultation meeting scheduled for Monday 23rd May 2011 at Orchard Park Community Centre, from 7:30-9:30pm.

Notice of audit received - accounts to be sent to auditor by 6 June.

Timeline: F&A to review accounts 28 April, Council to approve 9 May.

Trolley Bus - there would be no increase in Dial-a-Ride's minimum hire charge of £48.

Posting notices – there had been a marked increase in the number posters and flyers throughout the village in recent weeks. Council's Policy was to allow no posters on the bus shelters. General feeling was that commercial notices should not be allowed.

Posters advertising village events after the date of the event should be removed.

Noted that Flyposting is defined as "the display of advertising material on buildings and street furniture without the consent of the owner" and it is illegal under the Town and Country Planning Act and the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005.

The Clerk's Office would provide guidance in the Village View. **Action: Clerk's office**

Youth – new SLA – youth committee to discuss and to bring back to next meeting. **Action: Youth Working Group**

Quality Status (PC5/01-11) – the clerk reported that CPALC's re-accreditation panel had confirmed Council's renewal of Quality Status and that CPALC's representatives would attend the next Council meeting to present the certificate.

6 Planning

Appeal: (PC6/01-11) Mr Philip Jackson 21 The Sycamores – against refusal of permission for a side single story conservatory.

Decisions received:

S/2217/10 Mr Ben Moore – land to the rear of the Barn Chesterton Fen Road – erection of stable building and use of land for stabling of horses (PC6/02-11) - **approved. For the purposes of stabling of horses or for agriculture use. Hard and soft landscape works to be approved. Scheme for surface water drainage to be approved.**

S/0088/11 Milton Primary School Humphries Way – roof alterations (PC6/02-11) – **approved.**

S/2139/10 South Cambridgeshire District Council Blackwells Caravan Site Kings Hedges Road – additional caravan plot; extensions to day blocks including provision of air source heat pumps; erection of metal palisade on site boundaries (PC6/03-11) – **approved. Hard and soft landscape works to be approved. Palisade fencing to be dark green.**

S/01556/10/CW Long Acre Farm, Chesterton Fen Road (P6/03-11) – extension to waste transfer station including: rear stockyard and screening area; change of use of stables to office, toilet, rest room and store; plastic and cardboard storage area within existing building; tree planting at rear paddock – **approved by CCC development Control committee subject to 20 conditions: hours of operation, noise limits, white noise alarms on vehicle / mobile plant, surfacing of site, construction of stockpile bays, stockpile heights, limiting impact of skips, containers, surface and foul water drainage, ground contamination, fire, vehicle movements, sheeting of waste vehicles, vehicle parking, landscaping, fencing, cessation of waste operations and litter control.**

S/0246/10/F Mr L Saunders 27 & 28 Newfields – erection of utility/dayroom following demolition of side (east) wing (part retrospective) – **refused. Inappropriate development in the Green Belt.**

S/0202/11 Mrs Fiona Roberts 48 Fen Road – **approved. Conditions: “living” roof, hard and soft landscape works, external materials, vehicular access, times for operation of power machinery, scheme for contribution towards provision of public open space.**

New applications:

S/1472/10 Milton Parish Council - land to the east of the College of West Anglia - **approved.**

S/0400/11 Dr Tom Matthams 66 Fen Road replacement of single storey detached garage – **no recommendation.**

7 To consider grant to cricket club (PC8/03-11)

Phil Bone, cricket club representative, gave a review of the club’s finances and the costs of staging the third team’s “home” games away from Milton (usually at Fenstanton).

The club had three senior teams playing on Saturday, one friendly team on Sunday and three colts teams midweek.

Age range of the third team was 15-65 years. This team bridged the gap between colts cricket and the first and second teams and was an essential part of the club. Approximately twenty of the adult teams progressed from the colts.

Income came from subscriptions, match fees, vice presidents and fund raising.

During the previous year resurfacing the nets had cost £2400. The nets were viewed by the cricket club as a community asset and were used by youngsters in the village.

AGREED to make a one-off payment of £500 towards the third team’s costs of playing home games away. 6 votes in favour, 6 abstentions. (JEC, RD and RLEW each having declared an interest abstained).

P Bone thanked Council on behalf of the cricket club.

8 Community Care

a) **Minutes** - the minutes of the meeting held on 17 March (including a summary of Small Grants workshop held on 15 March) were received. IFM emphasised this sentence from minute 4/03-11:
“The chairman reminded committee that as grant-aid funding was changing it was essential to monitor costs closely.”

b) **Donation** - the clerk and assistant had spoken with the resident who was happy that the money should go towards the young people of the village. The resident gave another donation making a total of £1100 and had made her intentions clear in writing.

AGREED to accept the recommendation that Council set up a ‘youth fund’ and invite bids from youth groups (min CC3.2/03-11).

This fund would be advertised in the Village View and on the web. *Action: assistant clerk*

9 Maintenance – the minutes of the Maintenance Committee held on 28 March were received.

Cemetery (M5/03-11) – seat had been installed. The family were very pleased. Most of the flowers from the recent traveller’s funeral had been removed.

Manure (M6/03-11) - WDB had ordered the manure from the College of West Anglia.

Fitness equipment (M7/03-11) – the clerk and ME were meeting a representative from Sovereign (play company) on 7 April to discuss.

Play inspections (F&A10/01-11) – the City Services were no longer conducting inspections. The clerk and JEC would seek the services of another company. *Action: JEC and the clerk*

10 Donation to Archives County Council

Minutes from 1953-December 1999 had been deposited at the archives office (photocopies in Council safe).

AGREED to make a donation of £30 for safe storage of these documents.

JEC reported that she was scanning in the village photos that she had collected from Ireland (PC8/12-09) and hoped to lodge copies with the Cambridgeshire Collection.

It was felt that copies should be kept at the Council office. JEC would ask the family that owned the photos if they would agree to making copies available at the office.

11 Bus service changes – the notes of the public meeting held on 17 March were received.

The chairman apologised to RD for not informing him of the public meeting. (RD found out about the meeting after the event).

Two suggestions (not pursued):

1 ask Stagecoach the cost of extending say two citi2 buses each evening into Milton.

2 conduct a survey over the next two Friday/weekend evenings of numbers using the citi2 bus.

Other ideas:

Discuss with Glenn Edge, CCC how best to develop a service for those who want/need to use a bus in the evenings eg community transport.

JEC and MW agreed to work together to come forward with ideas at the next meeting.

Action: JEC and MW

12 Annual Parish Meeting – format.

The agenda for the meeting was agreed.

13 MCC update – no report.

14 County Councillor’s report

Park & Ride lighting – an article was published in the Cambridge News 21 March. From Mr Ross-Bain:

“The majority of the lights at Milton have Suntracker solar electronic time switches on the light columns.

These should have been programmed to switch off after a certain time at night. We cannot ascertain whether these were originally programmed or not. Therefore we have started to undertake this exercise ourselves.

The lights around the main building will remain untouched due to security reasons..... Two out of every three of the other car park columns will be adjusted to come on when it gets dark as per now but to go off after 11.30 p.m. then back on at 5.45 a.m.(if it is dark).”

Mr Ross-Bain was looking at ways to save energy.

MW would ask Mr R-B for his timescales. *Action: MW*

A14 bridge – CCTV – the quality of the photos was poor (PC7/09-10). MW would investigate. *Action: MW*

15 District Councillors' reports

“Chesterton Fen sewage connection appeal

I now have the costing details that Anglian Water have submitted. To connect the ‘duty properties’ to a mains connection to Milton Treatment Works would cost £2.03m while the alternative option of a new Package Treatment Plant operated by Anglian Water for the same properties would cost £2.325m. This is good news as the sewage main option is the only one that will deliver real environmental improvements in the area. However the information was a long time coming, and the decision is now not likely before May or June.

Rubbish on Chesterton Fen

There was an article in the Cambridge News about the massive rubbish collection by the Probation Service we talked about last month.

I am in contact with Cllr Ian Manning (County Councillor for Chesterton), who has a plan to get money from WREN to pay for a professional clearance of the ditches at Grassy Corner. He requires the EA to confirm that they do not have a duty to clean up the mess, and if they will give that assurance, WREN are prepared to fund it.

Traveller planning permissions

The 3-year permissions for Sandy Park and West View (which was formerly called 1,3,5 Sandy Park or ‘Land R/O 2 Grange Park’, and is the rental site owned by Nelson O’Connor), are all expiring at the end of April. I understand that the Travellers at Sandy Park have engaged an agent to put in a request for full planning permission there.

These sites are proposed as suitable in the draft Gypsy and Traveller Development Plan Document, which is still (many years later) in the process of being finalised. South Cambs has now agreed to recruit 2 more planning policy officers to progress the Development Plan documents that have been dormant for a while. The Cabinet is more worried about the many plots in Willingham and elsewhere that are not in suitable places, and which have 3-year temporary permissions. Without an adopted plan it is difficult to argue that the Travellers concerned have other places to move to.

Bus cuts

Last Friday I was phoned by Look East, who later came out and interviewed Anna Bradnam by a bus stop in the village – to be shown Monday 4th at around 6:30pm. This was concerning the story in the Cambridge News on Friday about the money spent on intelligent bus stops with real-time information, at a time when the bus services themselves are being cut.

Tesco

I am planning to visit the Tesco manager in the next few weeks. Are there any issues you would like me to take up?”
Potholes in road.

16 Land Group

Savills have prepared a revised ProMap of the College of West Anglia (CWA) land on offer, which the parish has passed on to CWA. CWA are preparing an in-house detailed survey of land (at no cost to the parish). CWA was reminded that the parish will not pay any of the college’s costs unless the deal goes through. IFM noted that, according to the Football Association (FA), moving electricity cables the length of a standard football pitch could cost as much as £100,000. RJF stated that the cables over the CWA land were live and carry 11,000 volts. RTS assured council that issues such as suitability of the land for football pitches would be addressed before any purchase of the land.

17 Bills for Payment and Money Received

CONFIRMED Payment of cheques 100434 - 100441

AGREED Payment of cheques 100442 - 100453

Noted that the Jean Gallagher Trust had granted the trolley bus scheme £700. Thanks to be sent to the clerk to the Trustees. *Action: the clerk*

18 Correspondence

CCC - Guided Busway update

NHS - Keeping in Touch (newsletter)

19 Dates of Next Meetings

Minibus 13 April; APM 18 April (& Planning if necessary);

F&A Thursday 28 April 7pm;

Annual Parish Council 9 May.

20 Items and Reports for May agenda (to be received by Tuesday 3rd May)

The chairman reflected that the present Council had now come to the end of its four year term. He paid tribute to and thanked those councillors who were not standing for re-election, Phil Badley (2005), Roger Day (1979), Barry Jefferson (2000) and Bob Waters (1993) for their contribution over the years.

The meeting ended at 9.35pm.

Signed..... Date.....